

Amendments to the Drawings:

The drawing sheet or sheets attached in connection with the above-identified application containing Figure(s) 1-3 are being presented as a new formal drawing sheet or sheets to be substituted for the previously submitted drawing sheet or sheets. The drawing Figures 1-3 have been amended. Appended to this amendment is an annotated copy of the previous drawing sheet which has been marked to show changes presented in the replacement sheet of the drawing.

The specific changes which have been made to Figure 1-3 are the addition of the identifier "Prior Art."

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1-8 are requested to be cancelled.

Claims 9-33 are being added.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 9-33 are now pending in this application.

The Examiner objected to the Figures on the ground that Figures 1-3 were not labeled as prior art. Applicant has therefore amended the figures in accordance with the Examiner's requirement.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) based upon U.S. Patent No. 5,778,143 (Boyce). Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based upon Boyce in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,072,831 (Chen). However, Applicant has decided to cancel each of these claims, as well as claims 6 and 7, without prejudice, rendering these issues irrelevant for the time being. Applicant reserves the right to pursue these claims and address the issues raised by the Examiner in a subsequent application or via later amendments.

Applicant has also added new claims 9-33. These claims describe various features which are discussed, for example, at paragraphs [0056]-[0060] and [0065]-[0067] of the present application. Applicant submits that each of these features describes various features which are neither taught nor suggested in the cited prior art.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance.
Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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By /G. Peter Albert Jr./

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 30542
Telephone: (858) 847-6735
Facsimile: (858) 792-6773

G. Peter Albert Jr.
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 37,268